

**FROM PONKAPOG TO  
PESTH AND AN OLD  
TOWN BY THE SEA**

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From Ponkapog to Pesth and an old town by the sea by Thomas Bailey Aldrich

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**THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH**

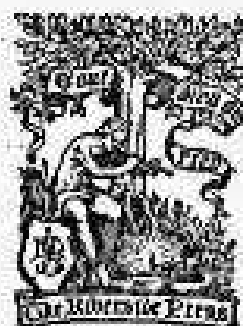
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BY

THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH



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As for these Obseruations which I now exhibite vnto thy gentle censure, take them I pray thee in good part till I present better vnto thee after my next travels.

COOPER'S CAREWELL. 1611.



FROM PONKAPOG TO PESTH



## FROM PONKAPOG TO PESTH

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### I

#### PROLOGUE

THE reader will probably not find Ponkapog set down in any but the very latest gazetteer. It is the Indian name of a little New England village, from which the writer sallied forth, a while ago, on a pilgrimage beyond the sea. Ponkapog scarcely merits a description, and Pesth—the farthest point east to which his wanderings led him—has been too often described. He is thus happily relieved of the onus of making strictly good the title of these chapters, whose chief merit, indeed, is that they treat of neither Pesth nor Ponkapog.

It was a roundabout road the writer took to reach the Hungarian capital—a road that carried him as far north as Inverness, as far south as Naples, and left him free to saunter leisurely through Spain and spend a day in Africa. But the ground he passed over had been worn